

CLAIMS

1 – Process for the disinfection and/or preservation of harvested plant material by contacting the harvested plant material with a liquid composition containing at least one peroxygen compound and at least one preservative.

5        2 – Process according to claim 1 in which the harvested plant material is animal feed chosen from harvested grass, cereals, maize, wheat, legumes and mixtures thereof.

10      3 – Process according to claim 1 or 2 in which the peroxygen compound is chosen from hydrogen peroxide, organic peracids, ester peracids, persalts, metallic peroxides or mixtures thereof.

4 – Process according to any one of claims 1 to 3 in which the preservative is an organic acid or salt thereof such as acetic, octanoic, benzoic, parahydroxybenzoic, sorbic, ascorbic, citric, lactic, malic, propionic, succinic acid, ester acids and their salts, or mixtures thereof.

15      5 – Process according to claims 3 and 4 in which the liquid composition contains from 5 to 60 % wt of the peroxygen compound and from 5 to 25 % wt of the preservative.

6 – Process according to claim 5 in which the peroxygen compound is hydrogen peroxide and the preservative is sodium benzoate.

20      7 – Process according to claim 3 in which the liquid composition is an aqueous solution containing from 0,5 to 40 % wt of peracetic acid, from 0,1 to 30 % wt of hydrogen peroxide and from 1 to 60 % wt of acetic acid.

8 – Process according to any one of claims 1 to 7 in which the liquid composition is used in an amount of from 0.5 to 10 l per tonne of plant material.

25      9 – Process according to claim 8 in which the liquid composition is used in an amount of from 1 to 3 l per tonne of plant material.

10 - Process according to any one of claims 1 to 9 in which the liquid composition has a pH of from 1 to 7.